

Response to 2/23/05 Office Action

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. The actions taken herein place the Application in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests that they be entered. Applicant appreciates the Office's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6, 7, and 31. This amendment is believed to be fully responsive to all issues raised in the 2/23/05 Office Action.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 31 is objected to for "redundant words". Claim 31 is cancelled herein.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

§112

Claim 2 stands rejected as being indefinite. Claim 2 is amended herein for the purposes of achieving a more concise wording. This amendment does not affect the claim scope and is not directed to patentability. Applicant respectfully requests that the §112 rejection of claim 2 be withdrawn.

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Claim 3-4 stand rejected as depending from claim 2. Claim 2 is amended herein. Applicant respectfully requests that the §112 rejection of claims 3-4 be withdrawn.

§102

Claims 1-4, and 18 stand rejected under §102 as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,416,156 to Noolandi et al (hereinafter "Noolandi").

Claim 1 is amended to recite subject matter indicated as allowable in relation to claim 6. Applicant accordingly requests the §102 rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn and that claim 1 be forwarded to issuance.

Claims 2-4 depend from claim 1 and are allowable at least for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 18 is cancelled herein without prejudice.

Claim 15 stands rejected under §102 as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,992,990 to Childers et al (hereinafter "Childers").

Claim 15 is cancelled herein without prejudice.

§103

Claim 5 and 30 stand rejected under §103 as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,416,156 to Noolandi et al (hereinafter "Noolandi") in view of US Patent No. 6,268,014 to Eberspacher et al (hereinafter "Eberspacher").

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Claim 5 depends from amended claim 1 and is allowable at least for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 30 is amended to include subject matter indicated as allowable in respect to claim 31. Applicant accordingly requests the §103 rejection of claim 30 be withdrawn and that claim 30 be forwarded to issuance.

Claim 8-20 stand rejected under §103 as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,416,156 to Noolandi et al (hereinafter "Noolandi") in view of US Patent No. 6,268,014 to Eberspacher et al (hereinafter "Eberspacher") and further in view of US Patent No. 6,705,699 to Du et al (hereinafter "Du").

Claim 8 is amended and recites subject matter which is neither taught nor suggested by the art of record. Specifically, amended claim 8 is directed to printing device and recites:

- a first set of firing nozzles formed in a first orifice layer;
- a second different set of firing nozzles formed in a second orifice layer; and,
- wherein individual nozzles of the first set have a diameter taken transversely to a long axis of the individual nozzles of less than about 25 microns, and wherein individual nozzles of the second set have a diameter taken transversely to a long axis of the individual nozzles of more than about 25 microns, and wherein fluid is supplied to the first set of

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firing nozzles a long a first fluid supply path and wherein individual nozzles of the first set of firing nozzles define a minimum dimension of the first fluid supply path, and wherein fluid is supplied to the second different set of firing nozzles a long a second fluid supply path and wherein individual nozzles of the second set of firing nozzles define a minimum dimension of the second fluid supply path.

Applicant accordingly requests the §103 rejection of claim 8 be withdrawn and that claim 8 be forwarded to issuance.

Claims 9-14 depend from claim 8 and are allowable at least for the same reasons as claim 8.

Claim 15-20 are cancelled herein without prejudice.

New claims

Claims 32-37 recite subject matter indicated as allowable in relation to claim 7. Applicant accordingly requests that claims 32-37 be forwarded to issuance.

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Conclusion

Claims 1-5, 7-14, 30, and 32-37 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the present application. Should any issue remain that prevents immediate issuance of the application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss the unresolved issue.

Respectfully Submitted,
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